

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-9, and add new claims 10-21, as follows:

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (New) A process for the preparation of gabapentin which comprises:

Hofmann rearrangement of 1,1-cyclohexanediacetic acid monoamide to produce a reaction mixture; and

precipitation of gabapentin from the reaction mixture by acidification of the reaction mixture to a pH of from 4 to 6.3 by the addition of organic acid, inorganic acid, or a mixture thereof.

Claim 11 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the reaction mixture is acidified to a pH of from 5.5 to 6.3.

Claim 12 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the reaction mixture is acidified to a pH of from about 6.2 to about 6.3.

Claim 13 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of organic acid.

Claim 14 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of organic acid, wherein the organic acid is one or more organic acids selected from acetic acid, citric acid, formic acid, maleic acid, methanesulphonic acid, oxalic acid and tartaric acid.

Claim 15 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of formic acid.

Claim 16 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of an aqueous solution of formic acid

Claim 17 (New) The process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous solution of formic acid comprises formic acid in a concentration of from 85 % to 96 %.

Claim 18 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of inorganic acid.

Claim 19 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of hydrochloric acid.

Claim 20 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of a mixture of organic acid and inorganic acid.

Claim 21 (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the acidification of the reaction mixture is carried out by the addition of a mixture of formic acid and hydrochloric acid.